

## Claims

1. A telecommunications method for establishing a connection with the mobile device (5) of a participant, in which telecommunications method a desired destination number transmitted in a short message (11) prepared by the participant is passed on to a callback computer (47), and in which telecommunications method a connection is established by this callback computer (47) between said mobile device (5) of the participant and said desired destination number, wherein

before establishment of said connection, the remaining credit of said participant is checked in a prepaid module (45) connected to the callback computer (47), and said connection is established only if this credit suffices.

2. The telecommunications method according to ~~the preceding claim~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein said prepaid module (45) calculates the remaining airtime with the aid of at least one tariff table (451) and passes it on to said callback computer (47).

3. The telecommunications method according to ~~the preceding claim~~<sup>2</sup>, wherein said prepaid module (45) calculates said airtime on the basis of the indication of location of said participant stored in a database (41).

4. The telecommunications method according to ~~the preceding claim~~<sup>3</sup>, wherein said database (41) is the home location register (41) of the HPLMN of said participant and the indication of location is the VLR address of said participant.

5. The telecommunications method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein said connection is truncated by said callback computer (47) if the remaining credit of said participant has run out.

6. The telecommunications method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein said mobile device (5) is a GSM device (5) and wherein said short message (11) is a USSD message (11).

7. A system (4) for establishing a connection with the mobile device (5) of a participant, which system can receive short messages (11) and can identify

AMENDED PAGE

the participant who has sent these short messages (11), which system comprises a callback computer (47), which can establish a connection between said participant and a destination number indicated in said short message (11), wherein

5 it comprises a prepaid module (45) which is connected to said callback computer (47) and in which a prepaid amount can be stored for at least certain participants, and

said prepaid module (45) contains at least one tariff table (451) with which the remaining airtime can be calculated.

10 8. The system (4) according to ~~the preceding claim~~<sup>7</sup>, wherein said prepaid module (45) can be connected to a home location register (41) of the system (4) via a MAP interface (43).

9. The system (4) according to ~~one of the claims 7 or 8~~, wherein the prepaid module (45) can calculate the remaining airtime of a said participant on the basis of indications of location of said participant stored in a home location register (41) of the system (4) and with the aid of said tariff table (451), and can pass it on to said callback computer (47).

10. The system (4) according to ~~one of the claims 7 to 9~~, wherein said mobile device (5) is a GSM device (5), and wherein said short message (11) is a USSD message (11).

11. The system (4) according to ~~one of the claims 7 to 10~~, wherein it comprises an interface module (43), which can take over the contents of a short message (11) sent to a home location register (41), and can pass it on together with the call number and location indication, stored in this home location register (41), for the participant who has sent the short message (11).

12. The system (4) according to ~~the preceding claim~~<sup>11</sup>, wherein the interface module (43) accesses the home location register (41) by means of the MAP protocol via the SS7 signalling system, and wherein said short message (11) is a USSD message (11).

AMENDED PAGE